(b) The anti-smuggling drive in general has been intensified throughout the country with particular emphasis in the highly vulnerable areas of our sea-cost| land border regions. The trends in smuggling and seizures made are kept under constant review for taking appropriate remedial measures in close co-ordination with the concerned Central and State Government authorities.

Stringent action is taken against the persons found involved in smuggling activities both departmentally as well as through prosecution in Courts. Apart from confiscation of goods involved and imposition of penalties in appropriate cases, preventive detention under the COFEPOSA Act is also resorted to. Cases of seizures of narcotic drugs are thoroughly investigated and action is taken under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985.

Recovery of excise duty from Modi Rubber Industries

53. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Modi Rubber Industries have not paid excise duty to the tune of Rs. 100 cores;

(b) if so, what action Government have taken for its realisation; and

(c) by when this amount is likely to be realised from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) Approximately an amount of Rs. 85.58 crores is outstanding against M/s Modi Rubber Industries and this amount is linked with various demands most of which have been challenged before the courts. The Government in the course of its drive to recover as much arrears as possible had a dialogue with the Company which admitted an amount of Rs. 24.31 crores. Out of this so far they have paid Rs. 16.51 crores and the remaining amount is expected to be paid early.

Recovery of taxes from companies

54. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of cases in which Supreme Court and various High Courts have given verdict in favour of the Union of India for the recovery of taxes amounting to more than Rs. 1 crore from various companies during the last three years; and

(b) what are the names of the companies involved and what steps are being taken by Government for the recovery of this amount?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Information to the extent possible is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rise in wholesale price index

55. SHRI F. M KHAN:
SHRI SURAJ PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be please dto state:

(a) what is the extent of rise in the price index of wholesale consumer articles during September, 1986 as compared to that of September, 1984; and

(b) what steps Government have taken to contain the prices so as to check inflationary trends?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARHDAN POOJARI): (a) There is no combined index of Wholesale prices of consumer articles. The extent of rise and fall in the WPI of some selected consumer articles is given in statement enclosed. (*See* below).

(b) The thrust of Government's anti-inflationary policy continues to be on effective demand and supply management including strengthening of public distribu-